



Welcome to August!

United Women in Faith – Social Justice News

A lot of us have been away on vacations and road trips. If you've been traveling, I hope you enjoyed your adventures. Others of us have been gardening and finding we have a surplus of zucchini and tomatoes. If you're in that situation, FISH food bank will happily take your donations. Fresh fruits and vegetables are pricey. Sharing your abundance can be such a blessing!

An Opportunity:

Judy and Ari recently attended a training by Together Colorado to learn more about how to build relationships with our legislators. Together Colorado is nonpartisan and interfaith. It works to advance human dignity in Colorado communities. Judy and Ari are meeting in small groups based on our locations to plan how to get more involved so our voices will be heard. Judy is working on the climate justice end of things while Ari is focused on disrupting the school to prison pipeline. If you'd like to learn more, contact Ari (booksbyari@gmail.com) or Judy (jmcgoogan@yahoo.com)

Just a thought:

We've had a couple days this last month where we've had heat advisories. On the first of those, about mid-day, I noticed it was pretty warm in my house. My air conditioner conked out. And, because it was happening all over town, I couldn't get anyone to come out to repair it for about a week. And that's when the learning started.

I noticed that with a small fan, I was comfortable most of the day. In the afternoons, I'd head to the basement where it was cooler. The only time I really felt we needed the air conditioner was after dinner until bedtime. Prior to this, I'd left it running - I just set it to

76 degrees and it clicked on when it needed to. Now, I leave it off until I start to feel warm and then I only turn it on for a couple hours. Feels good to make that shift. If we are to change the world, I'm learning, the change has to start in our own lives.



Painless ways to save the world:

Enroll in paperless billing: You can get an email or text to remind you to pay bills and this is a good thing for a few reasons. First, mail theft is up and this prevents that issue. Second, great for the environment. Third, sometimes companies will give you a bit of credit each month.

Speak up: Recently, I read an article about a black gentleman who had just finished dinner with his family when his wife mentioned she'd have to get up early the next day as her car was low on gas. He offered to fill her tank and drove down the street. He noticed a white woman watching him and calling someone on her phone. Police pulled up and began to question him. They were on the verge of arresting him when a white man nearby

interceded and explained he'd seen the black man come from a different direction than the suspect they were looking for. They let the man go, but can you imagine!?

As a white person, you have privilege. If you see something like this, speak up. We have a privilege we can leverage. It can be scary to get involved, but if it's safe, it can mean the difference between someone going home to his family or facing a complicated legal fight that could lead him to losing his job, his home, and his family. It's a small, brave thing to do.

Photo credit: Margot Richard

In closing:

We hope you all have a beautiful August and will look forward to sharing more in September. Judy has compiled an incredible list of opportunities available right now. Please take a look and see where you might want to hop in and help.

Blessings to you for an abundant rest of summer and a peaceful turning of seasons.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTION OPPORTUNITIES

There's a lot going on. We can each make a difference if we just pick ONE thing!

CLIMATE JUSTICE:

Our church is evaluating whether to form a **Creation Care Team** (like the Green Team we had a few years ago 😊). Each of us can help just by supporting the idea when you talk to folks - especially to members of the Ministry Council or the Trustees. We're grateful to trustees Russell Sarazan (rjsarazen@gmail.com) and Cody Schultz (drummerboy6980@yahoo.com) for co-chairing this effort. If you want to help, let one of them know!

WANT TO DO MORE?

- Urge Congress to prioritize climate justice legislation and funding. [Ask your Senators to Pass the Inflation Reduction Act](#)
- Celebrate the success of our neighboring church. Read how Interfaith Power & Light honors [Mountain View United Methodist Church](#) as one of their "**Cool Congregations.**"
- Join United Methodists to [Act for Creation, Act for Justice: Day of Action for Environmental Justice \(everyaction.com\)](#) Training is 8/19. Action is 8/27.
- Petition to protest/**stop fracking** permits for two projects in Colorado from Colorado Rising & [350.org](#) See this newsletter <https://secure.ngpvan.com/up6r9Nfjw0y17jl2FoF0aw2>
- Give thanks to God:** Colorado legislators in 2021 passed a suite of laws that in various ways give state agencies new marching orders that this energy transition will **reconcile past wrongs** and put people on an equal footing. Read more at: <https://bigpivots.com/walking-the-legislative-talk-of-environmental-justice/>
- Sign up for a multi-denominational **Creation Justice 101 Program**. Designed by experts from Yale, these once a month Zoom meetings provide support along with a set of toolkits that help churches and communities connect the dots between faith, science, justice and creation care. Click here for [MORE INFO](#)
- From 350CO
 - August 17, 6-7:30pm – New Volunteer Orientation, Zoom ([Register here](#))
 - August 18, 4:30-7:30pm – ‘Stronger Together’ Korean Climate Activists Social & Art Build in Boulder, CO ([RSVP here](#))
 - August 20, 10am – [Farm Fest & Kiss the Ground Film Screening](#)

[Learn more](#) at [Just Energy 4 All | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](#)

RACIAL JUSTICE & CRIMINALIZATION OF CHILDREN OF COLOR:

Listen to the Faith Talks podcast “School Safety for All” to hear a discussion about what’s happening in the wake of the Uvalde school shooting. [Podcasts | United Women in Faith \(uwfaith.org\)](#)

Want to do more?

- Mirror Image Arts works to **disrupt the school to prison pipeline** through theater and social emotional well-being programs for young people . Register for their [Got Your Back! event](#) on September 10th. Preview their silent auction items at [IGYB Silent auction](#).

Learn more at: [Racial Justice | UWF](#) and [Mass Incarceration UWF](#)

OTHER SOCIAL JUSTICE TIPS:

Broomfield FISH's annual luncheon fundraiser, Embracing Hope, is on Thursday, October 13th at the Lionsgate Event Center [Register Here](#)

Want to do more?

- Days for Girls meets monthly. Contact Laurie Kiel (lkiel99@gmail.com) for details.
- Precious Child has a Precious Mentor program. For this and other volunteer opportunities, go to [A Precious Child \(volunteerhub.com\)](#)
- Support Mental Health. Donate or learn more at [Team NAMI Boulder](#).
- Subscribe to the Mountain Sky Conference newsletters: [HERE](#)

Learn more at [UMC Global Board of Church and Society \(umcjustice.org\)](#)